

Dear Parent or Guardian,

The Battle of the Books Program is a VOLUNTARY reading competition designed to promote the love and appreciation of reading to elementary school fifth and sixth grade students. Battle Books are selected based on the recommendation from research, school administrators, public librarians, and school library clerks. We are proud of our recommended titles for this program, and believe they all have a degree of literary value. The aim of this program is to encourage students to read a variety of books and remember information about the plots, characters, and settings of the books.

A team is limited to three (3) students currently enrolled in either 5th or 6th grade at the participating school. Team members need to be in the same school, but not in the same grade. Once the first competition has begun, teams may not be modified unless the following conditions apply: if a team member has left the school, the remaining members may continue as a team of 2 or even 1. If a team member has moved away or become incapacitated an alternate (NOT currently on any team) may replace that team member. You may also replace with a student who is new to your school if he/she was participating in the Battle of the Books at his/her previous school site this year. Alternates MAY NOT be used to fill in for team members who are absent on the day of a competition or for members who have quit the Battle.

As a model for your child's behavior, we ask all parents/guardian who wish their child to participate in this program to agree to the following conditions:

1. Questions are to be transcribed, written down, or in any way recorded.
2. Competitions are to be videotaped so as to maintain the integrity of the questions and the yearly competitions.
3. Prompting of any type from the audience is allowed and will result in the question being disqualified.
4. Only members of a team are allowed to challenge questions.
Challenges must be submitted immediately upon team member questioning if an answer is incorrect and
5. Team members may not enter or exit the competition area during a round, whether at a school level, or any competition going forward.